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Government of Kerala
2026

Regn.No. KERBIL/2012/45073
dated 05-09-2012 with RNI
Reg No.KL/TV(N)/634/2021-2023

കേരള ഗസറ്റ്
KERALA GAZETTE
അസാധാരണം
EXTRAORDINARY

ആധികാരികമായി പ്രസിദ്ധപ്പെടുത്തുന്നത്
PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY

വാല്യം 15
Vol. XV

തിരുവനന്തപുരം, ചൊവ്വ
Thiruvananthapuram, Tuesday

2026 ജനുവരി 20
20th January 2026
1201 മകരം 6
6th Makaram 1201
1947 പൌഷം 30
30th Pousha 1947

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No.
215

GOVERNMENT OF KERALA

Transport (B) Department

NOTIFICATION

G.O.(P)No.3/2026/TRANS *Dated, Thiruvananthapuram,* 20*th January, 2026*

S. R. O. No. 68/2026

WHEREAS, the draft rules further to amend the Kerala Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989, were published as required under sub-section (1) of section 212 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 (Central Act 59 of 1988), as per preliminary notification No.B2/571/2022-TRANS-Part(2) dated 5*th* November, 2025, and published in the Kerala Gazette Extraordinary No. 3943 dated 06*th* November, 2025, inviting objections or suggestions on the draft rules from the persons likely to be affected thereby;

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AND WHEREAS, no objection or suggestion has been received on the said draft rules.

NOW, THEREFORE, in exercise of the powers conferred by clause (d) of sub-section (2) of section 65 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 (Central Act 59 of 1988), the Government of Kerala hereby make the following rules further to amend the Kerala Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989, namely :-

RULES

1. *Short title and commencement.*- (1) These rules may be called the Kerala Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Rules, 2026.

(2) It shall come into force at once.

2. *Amendment of the Rules.*- In the Kerala Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989, after rule 98, the following rule shall be inserted, namely:-

" 98A. Renewal of certificate of registration of State Government vehicles:- Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-rule (2) of rule 52 and rule 52A of the Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989, the certificate of registration in respect of a motor vehicle owned by-

(i) the State Government; or

(ii) any Municipal Corporation or Municipality or Panchayath; or

(iii) a State Government Undertaking; or

(iv) a Public Sector Undertaking; or

(v) an autonomous body owned or controlled by the State Government, shall be renewed for a period of five years after the expiry of fifteen years from the date of its initial registration or up to the age of twenty years from the date of initial registration, whichever is earlier:

Provided that the certificate of registration of the vehicles owned by the institutions specified above shall expire after the lapse of twenty years from the date of its initial registration and disposal of such vehicles shall be ensured through the Registered Vehicle Scrapping Facility set up in accordance with the Motor Vehicles (Registration and Functions of Vehicle Scrapping Facility) Rules, 2021, as amended from time to time or shall be disposed through Metal Scrap Trade Corporation Limited as per the guidelines issued by MoRTH: (Ministry of Road Transport and Highways)

Provided further that the certificate of registration of the vehicles owned by the institution specified above, if already renewed after the expiry of fifteen years, but before the lapse of twenty years from the date of its initial registration, shall continued to be valid until the expiry of twenty years from the date of its initial registration:

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Provided also that only those vehicles owned by the institutions specified above that have a pollution certificate and that have passed the fitness test can be extended the registration period, and those vehicles that fail the fitness test shall be scrapped through the Registered Vehicle Scrapping Facility set up in accordance with the Motor Vehicles (Registration and Functions of Vehicle Scrapping Facility) Rules, 2021, as amended from time to time or shall be disposed through Metal Scrap Trade Corporation Limited as per the guidelines issued by MoRTH: (Ministry of Road Transport and Highways)

Provided also that, this rule shall not apply to the special purpose vehicles (armoured and other specialised vehicles) used for operational purposes for defence of the country and for the maintenance of law and order and internal security.

By Order of the Governor,

P B NOOH I A S,

Special Secretary to Government

Explanatory Note

(This does not form part of the notification, but is intended to indicate its general purport.)

As per G.S.R.29(E) dated 16th January 2023, the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, have inserted rule 52A in the Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989, for providing that the registration of motor vehicles owned by the Central/State Governments, Municipal Corporations/Municipalities/Panchayats, State Road Transport Corporations, Public Sector Undertakings, and autonomous bodies owned or controlled by the Central or State Governments shall expire after the lapse of fifteen years from the date of initial registration.

Many of the vehicles owned by the above mentioned institutions are roadworthy and can continue to be used without requiring major repairs. Therefore, various departments have requested the Government to extend the period of registration of such vehicles.

As per Section 59 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988, the Central Government is empowered to prescribe different ages for different classes or types of motor vehicles. However, there appears to be no specific provision in the said Act for prescribing a separate period exclusively for Government-owned vehicles.

As per clause (d) of sub-section (2) of section 65 of the said Act, the State Government is vested

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with the power to frame rules relating to the issue or renewal of certificates of registration and fitness of the vehicles. In exercise of the said power, the Government has decided to fix the period of registration of only those motor vehicles owned by the State Government having a pollution certificate and passed the fitness test as well as, as twenty years.

Hence the Government have considered the matter and decided to make necessary amendments in the Kerala Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989 and issued preliminary notification as No.B2/571/2022-TRANS-Part(2) dated 5th November, 2025, in the Kerala Gazette Extra ordinary No. 3943 dated 6th November, 2025, inviting objections if any, as required under sub-section (1) of section 212 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988. No objections or suggestions were received. Hence Government have, therefore decided to make amendment in the Kerala Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989.

The notification is intended to achieve the above object.

PUBLISHED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT OF GOVERNMENT PRESSES
AT THE GOVERNMENT CENTRAL PRESS, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, 2026

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